

Clothing Drive

Organized by Congregation Beth El



Project Goal

To collect all types of presentable clothing (new and used), shoes, and accessories for the Interfaith Clothing Center.

Project Description

People from the community donate clothing, shoes, and accessories by bringing new and used items to the Temple on a Sunday morning. During the three hour collection period, volunteers sort through everything that is donated, removing anything that either has stains or other features that make them unpresentable. Then another group of volunteers transports the donations after the collection drive ends.

Timeline for Planning

- 4 weeks out: Request space where donation drives will take place.
- 3 - 4 weeks out: Advertise the drive by putting in a request for clothing and volunteers in the publications of the Temple and in weekly email notices. Continue until week of event.
- 2 weeks out: Touch base with the Interfaith Clothing Center which will receive the donations.
- Less than 1 week after: Thank the Temple and its members for helping and participating.

The organizers have done the project for several years so have the format down and can do it all within a month of the project.

How Many Volunteers?

Usually a total of about 20 volunteers are involved.

2 lead organizers of the overall event, 3 to 5 sorters of the donated items, 5 to 6 drivers of the clothing collected to the Interfaith Clothing Center.

Expenses

Trash bags, scotch tape, markers, stick-on labels, photocopies of donation forms for tax receipts and directions for drivers, snacks for volunteers. The Temple covers some of these expenses. The budget for this project is minimal and just depends on what types of snacks are bought.

Facilities/Needed Materials

Room where donations can be dropped, tables and signs for sorting, and cars for driving donations to the clothing center. See "Expenses" for other required materials.

Challenges

Estimating the right number of drivers (too many vs. not enough). Deciding what clothing is acceptable and usable.

Results

The collection typically yields about 20 to 25 large garbage bags full of clothing donations, including warm winter coats and clothing for men, women and children for all seasons of the year.

Special points of interest:

- > **Student Service Learning hours opportunity!**
- > **Great for children and families!**
- > **Make a difference for those in need!**
- > **"So much is donated, and it really doesn't require that much time or monetary investment to get it done," says co-organizer Leslie Dellon.**

